

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus comprising:
an image storage memory that stores one or more additional ~~images in~~
~~response to a characteristic of an input image;~~images;
a judging unit ~~to judge the~~that judges a characteristic of the~~of an~~ input image;
and
a synthesizing unit ~~to add an~~that selects the additional image ~~corresponding to~~
~~the characteristic of said input image stored in said~~from the image storage memory ~~to said~~
based on the characteristic of the input image in accordance with the judgment result made by
said judging unit.~~judged by the judging unit and adds the additional image to the input image.~~
2. (Previously Presented) The image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1,
wherein said image storage memory stores both a color additional image and a black/white
additional image as said additional image;
wherein said judging unit judges whether said input image corresponds to a
color input image, or a black/white input image; and
wherein said synthesizing unit adds said color additional image to said input
image when said judging unit judges that said input image is the color input image, and also
adds said black/white additional image to said input image when said judging unit judges that
said input image is the black/white image.
3. (Previously Presented) The image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1,
further comprising:
an image converter that converts a characteristic of an additional image; and

wherein when an additional image corresponding to the characteristic of said input image is not stored into said image storage memory, said image converter converts the additional image stored in said image storage memory into an additional image having a characteristic in response to the characteristic of said input image.

4. (Previously Presented) The image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein said image storage memory stores a color additional image as said additional image;

wherein said image converter converts the color additional image stored in said image storage memory into a black/white additional image; and

wherein when said judging unit judges that said input image is a color image, said synthesizing unit adds the color additional image stored in said image storage memory to said input image, whereas when said judging unit judges that said input image is a black/white image, said synthesizing unit adds said black/white additional image converted by said image converter to said input image.

5. (Previously Presented) The image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein when an additional image corresponding to the characteristic of said input image is not stored into said image storage memory, said synthesizing unit issues such an instruction that the additional image stored in said image storage memory is outputted while having a characteristic corresponding to the characteristic of said input image; and also adds said additional image to said input image.

6. (Previously Presented) The image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein said image storage memory stores a color additional image as said additional image; and

wherein when said judging unit judges that said input image is a black/white image, said synthesizing unit adds the color additional image stored in the image storage

memory to said input image in connection with a command for outputting the color additional image as a black/white image.

7. (Previously Presented) The image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

a charging unit to calculate a charge amount in response to a characteristic of an output image.

8. (Previously Presented) The image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein when said judging unit judges that the characteristic of said input image is the characteristic of the black/white image, said charging unit calculates the charge amount for the black/white image, assuming that the characteristic of said output image corresponds to the characteristic of the black/white image.

9. (Previously Presented) The image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

a charging unit for calculating a charge amount in accordance with the characteristic of said input image which is judged by said judging unit.

10. (Previously Presented) The image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein said synthesizing unit is capable of selectively determining as to whether or not said additional image is added to the input image; and said charging unit is capable of varying a charge amount, depending upon such a fact as to whether or not said additional image is added to the input image.

11. (Currently Amended) An image processing method comprising:

storing one or more additional ~~images in response to a characteristic of an~~
~~input image;~~images;

judging ~~at~~ the characteristic ~~of the~~ of an input image; and

~~adding an selecting the additional image corresponding to the characteristic of~~
~~said input image to said input image in accordance with the judgment of based on the~~
~~characteristic of the input image; image; and~~
adding the additional image to the input image.

12. (Previously Presented) The image processing method as claimed in claim 11, wherein both a color additional image and a black/white additional image are stored as said additional image;

wherein said judging the characteristic of the input image includes judging whether said input image corresponds to a color input image, or a black/white input image; and

wherein said color additional image is added to said input image when said input image is judged as the color input image, and also adds said black/white additional image to said input image when said input image is judged as the black/white image.

13. (Previously Presented) The image processing method as claimed in claim 11, further comprising:

converting a characteristic of an additional image; and

wherein when an additional image corresponding to the characteristic of said input image is not being stored, the additional image that is stored is converted into an additional image having a characteristic in response to the characteristic of said input image.

14. (Previously Presented) The image processing method as claimed in claim 13, wherein a color additional image is stored as said additional image;

wherein the color additional image that is stored is converted into a black/white additional image; and

wherein when said input image is judged as a color image, the color additional image that is stored is added to said input image, whereas when said input image is judged as a black/white image, said black/white additional image is added to said input image.

15. (Previously Presented) The image processing method as claimed in claim 11, wherein when an additional image corresponding to the characteristic of said input image is not being stored, the additional image that is stored is outputted while having a characteristic corresponding to the characteristic of said input image; and said outputted additional image is added to said input image.

16. (Previously Presented) The image processing method as claimed in claim 15, wherein a color additional image is stored as said additional image; and

wherein when said input image is judged as a black/white image, the color additional image is added to said input image in connection with a command for outputting the color additional image as a black/white image.

17. (Previously Presented) The image processing method as claimed in claim 11, further comprising:

calculating a charge amount in response to a characteristic of an output image.

18. (Previously Presented) The image processing method as claimed in claim 17, wherein when the characteristic of said input image is judged as the characteristic of the black/white image, the charge amount is calculated for the black/white image, assuming that the characteristic of said output image corresponds to the characteristic of the black/white image.

19. (Previously Presented) The image processing method as claimed in claim 11, further comprising:

calculating a charge amount in accordance with the characteristic of said input image as judged.

20. (Previously Presented) The image processing method as claimed in claim 17, wherein said adding an additional image includes selectively determining as to whether or not said additional image is added to the input image; and said calculating a charge amount includes varying a charge amount, depending upon such a fact as to whether or not said additional image is added to the input image.